

New! Managed Care Option Available for

Children in Out-of-Home Placement and Adoption Support

As of July 1, 2012, children in out-of-home placement and adoption support will have the **option** to enroll in a managed care health plan under Washington State's Medicaid program.

All children in out-of-home placement and adoption support will continue to be automatically eligible and receive their health care services under the Medicaid "fee for service" benefit unless a request to switch the child to managed care is made.

The new managed care plan *option* will **not** affect the current process for eligibility and delivery of health care services for children in foster care and adoption support.

Enrollment in managed care is **NOT** required for children in out-of-home placement or adoption support. Managed care is now an additional option for health care coverage available to children in these programs.

Q: What is Managed Care?

A: Managed Care allows you to pick a health plan and go to one clinic or doctor who is contracted with the plan. Children are assigned to a Primary Care Provider (PCP) who provides health care services and makes referrals to specialists when needed.

Q: Will newly placed and newly adopted children be automatically enrolled in a managed care plan?

A: No. All children in newly placed in out-of-home care or newly adopted will be automatically receive their medical care through the Medicaid fee for service benefit unless a request is made to the FCMT to enroll the child in a managed care plan.

If managed care is not desired, the social worker, caregiver, or the adoptive parent do not need to do ANYTHING. All children will have Medical coverage under the fee for service benefit just like they do now.

Q: Who makes the decision to enroll a child in out-of-home care into a managed care plan?

A: This decision is made jointly between the child's social worker and caregiver. To determine if a managed care plan is *appropriate* social workers should:

- Determine if the child's current health care provider(s) accept one or more of the managed care plans available in the child's placement county. If the child was

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enrolled in a managed care plan prior to entering out-of-home care, keeping the child in that plan may help to maintain continuity of health care. Remember, even if the managed care plan is available where the child is placed, it may still be necessary to change the PCP.

- Discuss the preferences for managed care versus continuing in fee for service with the child's caregivers and bio family as appropriate.
- The assigned social worker has the "final say" in determining whether the child should remain in fee for service or change to a managed care plan.

Q: Who contacts the FCMT to request that a child be enrolled in a managed care plan?

A: If the social worker and caregiver decide that a managed care plan is in the child's best interest, the social worker or the caregiver may contact the FCMT.

Do not contact the FCMT if no changes are required to the child's medical coverage.

Be sure to have the child's name and date of birth ready to give the FCMT staff in order to have your questions answered quickly.

Q: What are the managed care plan options available as of July 1, 2012?

A: Here is a link to a map of Washington State and the [Managed Care Plans](#) available in each county.

Q: How is information about the new managed care option being communicated to caregivers?

A: FCMT staff will mail the Foster Parent's Guide to Medicaid brochure to all new placements and to newly adoptive parents explaining their option to enroll in a managed care plan. This brochure is also available to place in Placement Packets for new placements and placement changes as information to the caregiver.

The FCMT also has information about each of the managed care plans that can be sent to caregivers upon request.

Q: Are SSI eligible children in out-of-home care and adoption support included in the requirement for all SSI eligible adults and children to be enrolled in a managed care plan?

A: No. Children in out-of-home placement and adoption support have the choice to be in fee for service or managed care regardless of their SSI eligibility. If the dependency of an SSI child is dismissed, then they will be required to be enrolled in a managed care plan.

Q: Will children on Adoption Support be automatically switched to a managed care plan?

A: No. The child's adoptive parents should contact the FCMT to request changes to the child's medical coverage.

Q: What is the benefit of Managed Care vs Fee for Service?

A:

- Enrolling in a managed care plan gives you access to medical advice 24 hours a day.
- In a managed care plan, your assigned primary care provider will ensure you receive all required preventative care services, referrals to a specialist when needed.
- The health plan can provide care coordination for clients who need help navigating throughout the healthcare system.

Q: If a child is enrolled in a managed care plan, can they be put back on fee for service or change plans?

A:

- Yes you will need to call FCMT at 1-800-562-3022 ext 15480
- Request to be removed/disenrolled from the plan
- Request to change to a different plan or placed back on fee for service
- Request to be Exempted from a plan (if the child is active on F0 case at CSO)

Q: Is there somewhere online I can go to get more information on this change?

A: Yes. You can go to http://www.hca.wa.gov/managed_care for more information on the changes or to see examples of materials available.

Contact the Foster Care Medical Team (FCMT) if you have additional questions.

1-800-562-3022 ext. 15480 or FCMT@hca.wa.gov.